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STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Weekly



Bulletin

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GUY P. JONES
EDITOR

Nurses Invited to
San Joaquin Unit.

The following communication is addressed to the public health nurses of the state by Dr. Adelaide Brown, member of the State Board of Public Health:
TO PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES:

The San Joaquin Local Health District has seen the light and offers an opportunity to any public health nurse registered in California to visit San Joaquin County and see how an organized health district works, with full-time health officer and staff and a group of fifteen nurses in the field under a superintendent nurse.

Each visitor will be assigned to a nurse and go with her in the field, coming in to headquarters for general information. The duration of the visit will depend upon the visitor's available time. It will be necessary to write to Miss Helen Hartley, R.N., 129 South American Street, Stockton, for an assignment. Board and room must be found by visiting nurses. This opportunity is parallel in value with the tour of a doctor to centers of medical work.

We hope that other organized health units will follow suit and give public health nurse visitors every chance to see their working methods. No one is lonelier than the isolated worker. The nurses in a center of population have no conception of the problems of rural public health nursing. Let us take the chance that San Joaquin County is offering to know and see others at work.

ADELAIDE BROWN, M. D.

U. C. Child Welfare
Institute to Open.

The Laura Spelman Rockefeller Institute of Child Welfare recently established at the University of California under an endowment providing generous funds for a period of six years, will be ready to start about October 1, according to an announcement by Dr. Herbert Stolz, Director of the Institute.

With its opening the institution will carry on, in addition to other projects, a day nursery school for twenty-five children between the ages of two and four and one-half years. This school will be conducted by Mrs. Pearl B. Crawford, graduate of Columbia University and Rockefeller Foundation Fellow during the past year at the Merrill-Palmer School in Detroit, the most successful nursery school in the United States, and at the Child Welfare Institute of the University of Minnesota.

The nursery school will differ from others in that it will be conducted almost entirely out of doors, retiring to the rooms fitted for that purpose on the first floor of the building only when the weather becomes too inclement. The school will be open from 9 in the morning until 4 in the afternoon and a special lunch will be prepared in a large kitchen, which is part of the building equipment. The children will be selected with care, on the basis of age, health, and the likelihood of being permanently resident in the Bay region, so that they may be carried on the records for a number of years.

In addition to the kitchen and nursery school rooms on the first floor, there will be a library and study room for research assistants, an inspection room for incoming children, an isolation room in case of sickness and provisions for giving the children a regular afternoon nap. Harold L. Jones of Columbia University is Director of Research of the institute.



Law Provides for New Quarantine Sign.

The attention of health officers is directed toward the changes in rule 3, section 13, of the Public Health Act. The old rule required that the name of the disease be printed upon the sign. The amended rule provides for a universal type of placard on which the name of the disease is not printed. Following is the text of rule 3 as it now stands upon the statutes:

Rule 3. When any building, house, structure, or part thereof, or tent or other place, is quarantined because of a contagious, infectious or communicable disease, said local health boards or chief executive health officer shall cause to be firmly fastened, in the most conspicuous place upon such house, building, tent or other place, a yellow placard, upon which shall be printed the following words:

"Keep out, these premises have been quarantined by order of the _____"

Note—Under the provisions of the public health act of the State of California anyone entering or leaving these premises without the permission of the health officer is guilty of a misdemeanor."

The word "quarantined" as it appears upon such placard shall be printed in plain and legible letters of at least two and one-half inches in length.

Such placard shall not be removed by any person except the health officer or his deputies, nor shall the same be obstructed or obscured in any manner by any person whatever.



Pasadena Examines All Food Handlers.

Pasadena has an ordinance the provisions of which require that each person handling foodstuffs for sale within the city must hold a certificate from the health department which states that he is free from communicable diseases. This ordinance has been in effect for several years and Pasadena is one of the few cities in California which enforces an act of this sort. Since the first of July about 2000 food handlers in Pasadena have received the necessary physical examinations which are made free, at the office of the health department.



A city with a high death rate—or a high case rate—from diphtheria indicates that some one has been neglecting his duty in the immunization of children.—Ohio Health News.

Nurse a Factor in Venereal Disease Control.

The American Social Hygiene Association has issued the following statement relative to the role played by the nurse in the control of venereal diseases:

"In addition to the actual diagnosing and treatment of syphilis and gonorrhea, the physician has the responsibility of not only urging long-continued medication and observation but there is also a sociological and public health obligation. What permanent value is there to be gained if either the husband or wife is treated and the other neglected? In fact, in treating the syphilitic patient, unless a sufficient quantity of drugs is given to effect an arrest (cure), relapses are prone to occur, making the infection less amenable to further therapy.

"The nurse, both public health and private duty, should be indispensable to the physician caring for patients with syphilis and gonococcus infections. She should be able to recognize cases of communicable diseases that are a menace to public health. She should not attempt a diagnosis but should present her suspicions to the physician. She must also, more than any other worker in the field with the exception of the doctor, have a broader understanding of the methods of contraction and spread of these diseases, of their bearing upon domestic relations, and of the necessity for prolonged care and treatment. If the nurse has the necessary amount of special training and information regarding syphilis and gonorrhea she will be able to protect herself in handling cases and to apply her knowledge to the greatest advantage of the community—through the health department, dispensary, hospital and patient."



Child Hygiene Bureau Issues New Folder.

A heavy cardboard folder, to contain the health records of the child, has been prepared by the Bureau of Child Hygiene. Forms upon which to plot the child's weights, each week, are provided upon the inside covers of the folder. Bound in the folder are cards which give the child's health conference record as well as cards upon which findings and recommendations of the examiner are written at the time of each examination. The folders are valuable to mothers and they may be obtained in limited quantity by writing to the Bureau of Child Hygiene, 335 State Building, San Francisco. A standard size of card (5 x 8) is used in these records.

Nineteenth Meeting Of Health Officers.

The conference of California health officers, to be held in Sacramento September 19-23, in conjunction with the annual convention of the League of California Municipalities, will be the nineteenth such conference to be held with the League. Organized as the Health Officers' Section of the League of California Municipalities, the first meeting was held at Santa Cruz in 1909. Under the name of the California Public Health Association similar meetings have been held in San Francisco in 1905, San Jose in 1906, Del Monte and Napa in 1907, Woodland and Coronado in 1908. It was not until 1909, however, that a regular annual meeting of California health officers was held as a distinct unit of the League of California Municipalities. Following are the names of places and years in which organized meetings have been held since 1909:

1909 Santa Cruz	1921 Ocean Park-
1910 San Diego	Santa Monica
1911 Del Monte	1922 Palo Alto-
1912 Berkeley	Stanford Uni-
1913 Venice	versity
1914 Del Monte	1923 Coronado
1915 Oakland	1924 Monterey
1916 Visalia	1925 Long Beach
1917 Santa Rosa	1926 Yosemite Val-
1918 Riverside	ley
1919 Riverside	1927 Sacramento
1920 Chico	

New Duties for City Health Officers.

An amendment to section 16 of the Public Health Act provides for more thorough detail in the reporting of cases of communicable diseases. It requires the submission by city health officers of written weekly reports of the number and character of cases of communicable diseases to the county health officers. The amended section reads as follows:

Sec. 16. All physicians, nurses, clergymen, attendants, owners, proprietors, managers, employees, and persons living in or visiting any sick person in any hotel, lodging house, house, building, office, structure, or other place where any person shall be ill of any infectious, contagious, or communicable disease, shall promptly report such fact to the county, city and county, city, or other local health board or health officer, together with the name of the person, if known, and place where such person is confined, and nature of the disease, if known.

It shall be the duty of each city, city and county, or other health officer to transmit to the county health officer at least weekly in writing a report showing the number and character of infectious, contagious or communicable diseases reported and locations from which such cases have been reported.

Chico Children Are Immunized.

Through the cooperation of practicing physicians of Chico, Butte County, a large number of the school children of the city have been immunized against diphtheria. The work began during the spring months and was made necessary because of an extensive outbreak of diphtheria in Chico. The following table indicates that 96 per cent of these children received the required three injections of toxin-antitoxin. This, in itself, shows the thoroughness with which the work was carried on:

Toxin-Antitoxin, Chico, 1927.

Age groups	Number of doses			
	One	Two	Three	Total
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—
1-4	1	—	13	14
5-9	1	5	201	207
10-14	6	3	238	247
15-19	—	—	18	18
Unknown	—	2	9	11
Totals	8	10	479	497

A previous study of the New York Commission on Ventilation which recommended the window system of ventilation rather than the newer fan system required by some of the state laws has caused considerable controversy between hygienic authorities and ventilating engineers. As a result, the commission is conducting special studies in Syracuse and in Cattaraugus County, N. Y., in connection with the urban and rural health demonstrations which the Milbank Memorial Fund is aiding. It is hoped that this investigation will help to determine the relation between the system of ventilation used and the health of school children.

We are apt to think that regulations against the common drinking cup are a modern innovation. Marco Polo, the great traveler, writing of the natives of India in the latter part of the thirteenth century says:

"They drink out of a particular kind of vessel, and each individual from his own, never making use of the drinking pot of another person. When they drink they do not apply the vessel to the mouth, but hold it above the head, and pour the liquor into the mouth, not suffering the vessel on any account to touch the lips. In giving drink to a stranger, they do not hand their vessel to him, but, if he is not provided with one of his own, pour the wine or other liquor into his hands, from which he drinks it, as from a cup."

Any kind of a crew with any kind of a ship can run down the wind but seamanship, patience and hard work are needful beating up the trades, which applies to local health administration, where most of the political currents are adverse trade winds.—Ohio Health News.

Republics may not be ungrateful, but it was a private organization that lately rewarded John R. Kissinger whose heroism in 1900 enabled Dr. Walter Reed to prove that yellow fever is transmitted by mosquitoes.—Ohio Health News

MORBIDITY.*

Diphtheria.

92 cases of diphtheria have been reported, as follows: Berkeley 2, Oakland 28, Los Angeles County 7, Glendale 2, Los Angeles 16, Torrance 1, San Gabriel 2, Willits 3, Merced 1, Nevada City 1, Orange County 5, Laguna Beach 1, Banning 1, Sacramento 3, San Diego 5, San Francisco 4, San Joaquin County 2, San Mateo County 1, San Mateo 1, Santa Clara County 1, Siskiyou County 2, Benicia 1, Yuba City 2.

Scarlet Fever.

36 cases of scarlet fever have been reported, as follows: Berkeley 2, Oakland 4, Fresno County 2, Los Angeles County 4, Glendale 1, Los Angeles 4, Whittier 1, San Rafael 1, Madera County 2, Fullerton 2, Santa Ana 2, Sacramento 1, San Benito County 1, San Diego 1, San Francisco 3, Stockton 1, Paso Robles 1, San Mateo County 1, Santa Barbara County 1, Santa Clara County 1.

Measles.

25 cases of measles have been reported, as follows: Oakland 1, Los Angeles County 2, Azusa 1, Laverne 1, Los Angeles 3, Salinas 1, National City 4, San Francisco 8, San Mateo 1, Santa Cruz County 2, Siskiyou County 1.

Smallpox.

7 cases of smallpox have been reported, as follows: Alameda County 6, Sacramento 1.

Typhoid Fever.

9 cases of typhoid fever have been reported, as follows: Fresno County 1, Kern County 1, Bakersfield 1, Kings County 1, Madera County 2, Riverside 1, Sonoma County 1, Visalia 1.

Whooping Cough.

101 cases of whooping cough have been reported, as follows: Alameda 4, Berkeley 4, Oakland 18, Concord 1, Los Angeles County 4, Los Angeles 7, South Pasadena 1, South Gate 1, Monterey Park 1, San Rafael 2, Salinas 4, Orange County 1, Anaheim 1, Laguna Beach 1, San Diego County 3, San Diego 24, San Francisco 14, San Joaquin County 2, Stockton 3, Palo Alto 3, Sonoma County 1, Visalia 1.

Poliomyelitis.

58 cases of poliomyelitis have been reported, as follows: Alameda County 1, Alameda 1, Berkeley 3, Oakland 7, Sutter Creek 1, El Dorado County 1, Humboldt County 2, Kern County 1, Los Angeles County 1, Alhambra 1, Los Angeles 6, Anaheim 1, Fullerton 1, Sacramento County 1, Sacramento 2, San Francisco 8, San Joaquin County 1, Stockton 2, Palo Alto 3, San Jose 3, Santa Cruz County 1, Sonoma County 4, Red Bluff 6.

Meningitis (Epidemic).

Fresno County reported one case of epidemic meningitis.

*From reports received on September 5th and 6th for week ending September 3rd.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORTS.

Disease	1927				1926			
	Week ending			Reports for week ending Sept. 3 received by Sept. 9	Week ending			Reports for week ending Sept. 4 received by Sept. 7
	Aug. 13	Aug. 20	Aug. 27		Aug. 14	Aug. 21	Aug. 28	
Anthrax.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Botulism.....	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Chickenpox.....	30	35	35	41	32	57	33	29
Diphtheria.....	71	57	87	92	58	47	78	87
Dysentery (Bacillary).....	0	7	17	0	1	2	6	0
Encephalitis (Epidemic).....	2	0	5	0	0	1	3	0
Gonococcus Infection.....	90	136	87	106	244	94	100	153
Influenza.....	6	3	5	5	3	5	6	6
Jaundice (Epidemic).....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leprosy.....	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Malaria.....	4	1	3	0	2	2	12	3
Measles.....	51	58	44	25	104	86	149	141
Meningitis (Epidemic).....	2	4	2	1	4	1	1	2
Mumps.....	22	29	25	20	46	51	73	60
Paratyphoid Fever.....	3	1	0	1	1	0	0	3
Pneumonia (Lobar).....	20	59	38	28	25	20	55	19
Poliomyelitis.....	74	52	61	58	3	7	3	4
Rabies (Animal).....	3	3	3	8	5	4	7	6
Rabies (Human).....	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Rocky Mt. Spotted Fever.....	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever.....	41	51	45	36	41	49	68	63
Smallpox.....	6	6	3	7	20	4	4	7
Syphilis.....	106	130	84	124	144	97	68	146
Tetanus.....	1	2	4	0	1	1	3	0
Trachoma.....	0	2	1	1	4	1	7	1
Trichinosis.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis.....	169	251	167	176	155	193	173	163
Typhoid Fever.....	23	26	16	9	30	28	30	20
Typhus Fever.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whooping Cough.....	161	161	121	101	68	26	61	40
Totals.....	886	1074	853	839	994	776	940	954

CALIFORNIA STATE PRINTING OFFICE

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